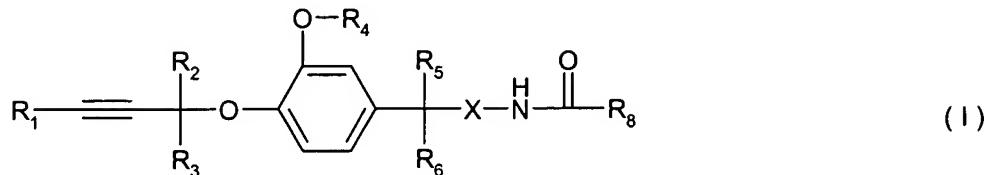


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Original): A compound of formula I



including the optical isomers thereof and mixtures of such isomers, wherein

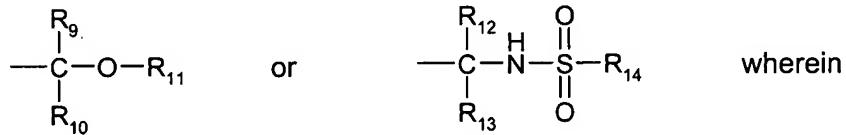
R_1 is hydrogen, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -cycloalkyl, phenyl or naphthyl; phenyl and naphthyl being optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkenyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkynyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkoxy, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkoxy, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylthio, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkylthio, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano and nitro;

R_2 , R_3 , R_5 , R_6 , and R_7 are each independently of each other hydrogen or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ -alkyl;

R_4 is $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ -alkyl; or

X is O or N-R_7 ; and

R_8 is a group



R_9 is phenyl, naphthyl, 1,3-biphenyl or 1,4-biphenyl, each optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkenyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkynyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkoxy, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkoxy, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylthio, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkylthio, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano, nitro and $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkoxycarbonyl;

R_{10} and R_{11} are each independently hydrogen, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -alkenyl or $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -alkynyl;

R_{12} is $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -cycloalkyl, phenyl or naphthyl; phenyl and naphthyl being optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkenyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_8$ -alkynyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkoxy, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkoxy, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylthio, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkylthio, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylsulfonyl, aryl, halogen, cyano and nitro

R_{13} is hydrogen, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -alkenyl or $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$ -alkynyl; and

R_{14} is $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -haloalkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkylamino or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -dialkylamino.

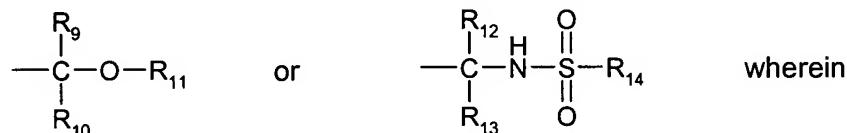
Claim 2. (Original): A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_{10} is hydrogen or C_1-C_8 -alkyl, X is oxygen, R_8 is $-C(R_9R_{10})-OR_{11}$ and R_{11} is hydrogen or C_3-C_8 -alkynyl.

Claim 3. (Original): A compound according to claim 1 wherein X is oxygen, R₈ is –C(R₁₂R₁₃)NH-SO₂-R₁₄, and R₁₂ is C₁-C₈-alkyl or branched C₁-C₈-alkyl.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula I according to [any of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein R₁ is hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl, phenyl or naphthyl; phenyl and naphthyl being optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₂-C₈-alkenyl, C₂-C₈-alkynyl, C₁-C₈-haloalkyl, C₁-C₈-alkoxy, C₁-C₈-haloalkoxy, C₁-C₈-alkylthio, C₁-C₈-haloalkylthio, C₁-C₈-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano and nitro;

R₄ is C₁-C₆-alkyl; or

R_8 is a group



R₉ is phenyl, naphthyl, 1,3-biphenyl or 1,4-biphenyl, each optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₂-C₈-alkenyl,

C₂-C₈-alkynyl, C₁-C₈-haloalkyl, C₁-C₈-alkoxy, C₁-C₈-haloalkoxy, C₁-C₈-alkylthio,

C_1 - C_8 -haloalkylthio, C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano, nitro and C_1 - C_8 -alkoxycarbonyl; R₁ is hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl or C₂-C₈-alkynyl; and

R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, R_3 is ethynyl, and

R₁₄ is C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₁-C₈ haloalkyl, C₁-C₈ alkylamino or C₁-C₈ dialkylamino.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula I according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein

R₁ is hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl; and R₂, R₃, R₅ and R₆ are hydrogen; and R₄ is C₁-C₆-alkyl; and R₉ is phenyl, naphthyl, 1,3-biphenyl or 1,4-biphenyl, each optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₂-C₈-alkenyl, C₂-C₈-alkynyl, C₁-C₈-haloalkyl, C₁-C₈-alkoxy, C₁-C₈-haloalkoxy, C₁-C₈-alkylthio, C₁-C₈-haloalkylthio, C₁-C₈-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano, nitro and C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl; and R₁₀ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl; and R₁₁ is hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl or C₂-C₈-alkynyl; and R₁₂ is C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈-alkenyl, C₃-C₈-alkynyl; phenyl or benzyl wherein the phenyl and benzyl is optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₂-C₈-alkenyl, C₂-C₈-alkynyl, C₁-C₈-haloalkyl, C₁-C₈-alkoxy, C₁-C₈-haloalkoxy, C₁-C₈-alkylthio, C₁-C₈-haloalkylthio, C₁-C₈-alkylsulfonyl, halogen, cyano, nitro and C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl; and R₁₃ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄-alkyl; and R₁₄ is C₁-C₆-alkyl; C₁-C₆-monoalkylamino or C₁-C₆-dialkylamino.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula I according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein R₁ is hydrogen or C₁-C₆-alkyl, and R₂, R₃, R₅ and R₆ are hydrogen; and R₄ is methyl or ethyl; and R₉ is phenyl or naphthyl each optionally substituted by one to three substituents selected from the group comprising C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-haloalkyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxy, C₁-C₆-haloalkoxy, C₁-C₆-alkylthio, C₁-C₆-haloalkylthio, halogen, cyano, nitro and C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl; and R₁₀ and R₁₃ are each hydrogen; and R₁₁ is hydrogen or C₂-C₆-alkynyl; and R₁₂ is C₂-C₆-alkyl or C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl; and R₁₄ is C₁-C₆-alkyl or C₁-C₆-dialkylamino.

Claim 7. (Original): A compound of formula I according to claim 1 selected from the group comprising

2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-nyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-acetamide,
N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-nyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-2-prop-2-nyloxy-acetamide,
2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-nyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-acetamide,
N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-nyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-2-prop-2-nyloxy-acetamide,
2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-nyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,
2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-nyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-nyloxy-acetamide,

2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,
2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-
acetamide,
2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,
2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-
acetamide,
2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,
2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-
acetamide,
2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,
2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-
acetamide,
2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,
2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-2-prop-2-ynyloxy-
acetamide,
(S)-2-methylsulfonylamino-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-
butyramide,
(S)-2-methylsulfonylamino-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-
butyramide,
(S)-N-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyloxy}-2-
methylsulfonylamino-3-methyl-butyramide,
(S)-2-ethylsulfonylamino-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-butyramide,
(S)-N-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyloxy}-2-N,N'-dimethylamino-
sulfonylamino-3-methyl-butyramide,
2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,
2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-acetamide,
(S)-2-ethylsulfonylamino-N-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-butyramide,
(S)-N-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyloxy}-2-
ethanesulfonylamino-3-methyl-butyramide,
hydroxy-phenyl-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,
phenyl-prop-2-ynyloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,
hydroxy-phenyl-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,

phenyl-prop-2-ynylloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,
(4-chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,
(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynylloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-
hydrazide,
(4-chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,
(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynylloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-
hydrazide,
(4-bromo-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,
(4-bromo-phenyl)-prop-2-ynylloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-
hydrazide,
(4-bromo-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-hydrazide,
(4-bromo-phenyl)-prop-2-ynylloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-
hydrazide,
(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-
hydrazide,
(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynylloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-prop-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-
hydrazide,
(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-
hydrazide,
(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynylloxy-acetic acid N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-ynylloxy-benzyl)-
hydrazide,
N- $\{(S)\}-1-[N'-(3\text{-methoxy-4\text{-prop-2-ynylloxy-benzyl})-hydrazinocarbonyl}]-2\text{-methyl-propyl}\}-$
methylsulfonamide,
N- $\{(S)\}-1-[N'-(3\text{-methoxy-4\text{-pent-2-ynylloxy-benzyl})-hydrazinocarbonyl}]-2\text{-methyl-propyl}\}-$
methylsulfonamide,
N- $[(S)\text{-1-}(N'\text{-}\{4\text{-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-ynylloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyl}\}\text{-hydrazinocarbonyl})\text{-2-methyl-propyl}]\text{-methylsulfonamide,}$
N- $\{(S)\}-1-[N'-(3\text{-methoxy-4\text{-prop-2-ynylloxy-benzyl})-hydrazinocarbonyl}]-2\text{-methyl-propyl}\}-$
ethylsulfonamide,

N-[(S)-1-[N'-(3-methoxy-4-pent-2-nyloxy-benzyl)-hydrazinocarbonyl]-2-methyl-propyl]-ethylsulfonamide, and

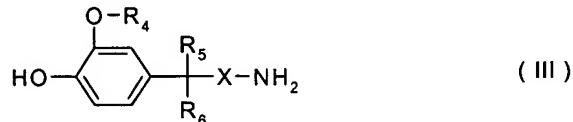
N-[(S)-1-(N'-{4-[3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-prop-2-nyloxy]-3-methoxy-benzyl}-hydrazinocarbonyl)-2-methyl-propyl]- ethylsulfonamide.

Claim 8. (Original): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, which comprises

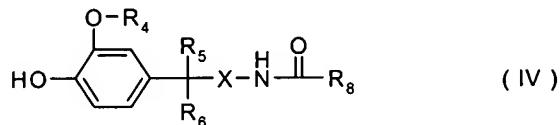
a) reacting an acid of formula II or a carboxy-activated derivative of an acid of formula II



wherein R_8 is as defined for formula I with an amine of formula III



wherein R_4 , R_5 , R_6 and X are as defined for formula I and reacting the intermediate phenol of formula IV

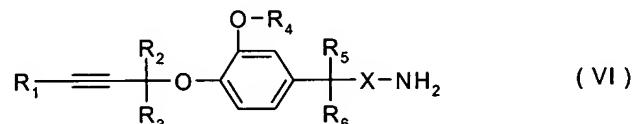


wherein R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_8 and X are as defined for formula I with a compound of formula V



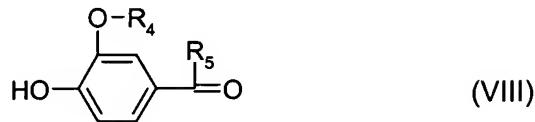
wherein R_1 , R_2 and R_3 are as defined for formula I and wherein Y is a leaving group; or

b) reacting a compound of formula VI



wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 and X are as defined for formula I with an acid of formula II or a carboxy-activated derivative of an acid of formula II; or

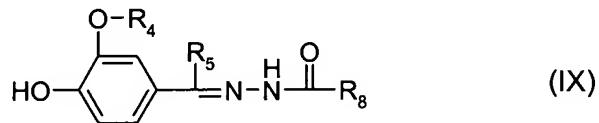
c) reacting a compound of formula VIII



wherein R_4 and R_5 are as defined for formula I with an acid hydrazide of formula VII

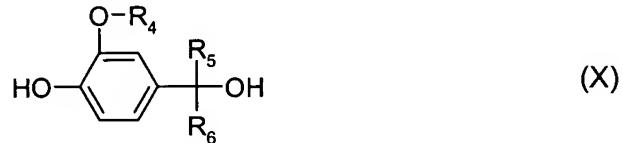


wherein R_8 is as defined for formula I, and hydrating the intermediate acylhydrazone of formula IX

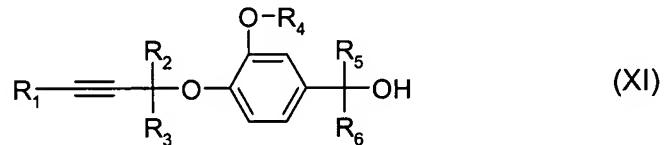


yielding in a compound of formula IVa, wherein R_4 , R_5 and R_8 are as defined for formula I; or

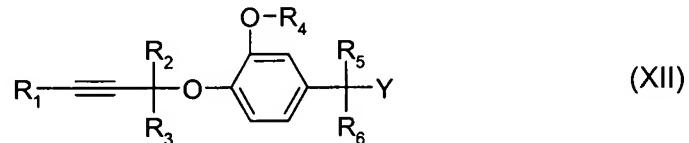
d) reacting a phenol of formula X



wherein R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are as defined for formula I, with a compound of formula V as defined above, and transforming the intermediate alcohol of formula XI



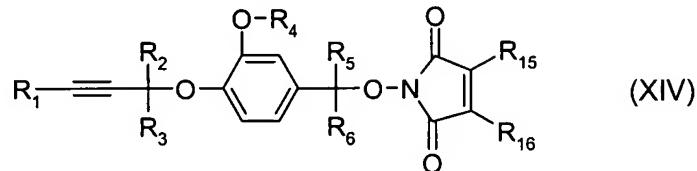
wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are as defined for formula I, into a compound of formula XII,



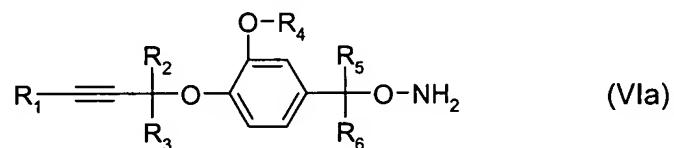
wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are as defined for formula I and wherein Y is a leaving group like a halide such as a chloride or bromide or a sulfonic ester such as a tosylate, mesylate or triflate, and reacting the compound of formula XII with a compound of formula XIII



wherein R₁₅ and R₁₆ are hydrogen, halogen, methyl or part of an annelated benzene ring to yield an N-alkoxyimide of formula XIV



wherein R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆ are as defined for formula I and R₁₅ and R₁₆ are as defined for formula XIII, and reacting the N-alkoxyimide of formula XIV with an amine derivative, like methylamine or butylamine or a hydrazine derivative, such as hydrazine, hydrazine hydrate or methylhydrazine to yield a compound of formula VIa



wherein R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆ are as defined for formula I.

Claim 9. (Original): A composition for controlling and protecting against phytopathogenic microorganisms, comprising a compound of formula I according to claim 1 as active ingredient together with a suitable carrier.

Claim 10. (Cancelled).

Claim 11. (Currently Amended): A method of controlling and preventing an infestation of crop plants by phytopathogenic microorganisms, which comprises the application of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 ~~for of a composition according to claim 9~~ as active ingredient to the plant, to parts of plants or to the locus thereof.

Claim 12. (Original): A method according to claim 11, wherein the phytopathogenic microorganisms are fungal organisms.

Claim 13. (New): A method of controlling and preventing an infestation of crop plants by phytopathogenic microorganisms, which comprises the application of a composition according to claim 9 to plant, to parts of plants or to the locus thereof.

Claim 14. (New): A method according to claim 13, wherein the phytopathogenic microorganisms are fungal organisms.